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United States Patent [19]

Kawamura et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** 5,764,622[45] **Date of Patent:** Jun. 9, 1998[54] **RECORDING MEDIUM CARTRIDGE AND SIGNAL RECORDING APPARATUS**[75] **Inventors:** Ichiro Kawamura, Osaka; Ryoichi Imanaka; Yoshikazu Goto, both of Hirakata, all of Japan[73] **Assignee:** Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., Osaka, Japan[21] **Appl. No.:** 652,053[22] **Filed:** May 23, 1996[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**May 23, 1995 [JP] Japan 7-123420
May 17, 1996 [JP] Japan 8-122948[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** G11B 23/03[52] **U.S. Cl.** 369/291; 360/133[58] **Field of Search** 369/289, 290,
369/291, 292; 360/132, 133, 137; 206/308.1,
308.2, 308.3, 387.1, 387.11; 220/214, 257,
258[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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A cartridge for housing a recording medium therein. The cartridge includes a cartridge body configured such that a signal recording apparatus can record a signal onto the recording medium when the cartridge is loaded in the signal recording apparatus. The cartridge also includes an opening in the cartridge body for removing the recording medium from the cartridge body, and a cover covering the opening. An indicator on the cartridge body indicates whether the cover has ever been opened or removed from the cartridge body.

5 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets